

a high school has been named in his honor. He was named Legislator of the Year in 1986 by the League of California Cities, and received many other awards for his work on behalf of schools, cancer victims and the local economy. I ask you and my colleagues to honor him as well with our congratulations on his 80th birthday, and our best wishes for his continuing work on behalf of Californians.

**LADY HAWKS OF CARROLLTON
HIGH SCHOOL**

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2002

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lady Hawks of Carrollton High School on their recent state basketball championship. The Lady Hawks defeated Augusta Southeastern, 24–20, to win their second consecutive Illinois High School Association Class A State Basketball Championship.

In addition to being crowned state champs, the Carrollton Lady Hawks finished with a record of 34 victories and only 3 losses. This team was able to reel off 24 consecutive wins en route to back-to-back titles. The Lady Hawks gave Carrollton basketball fans a thrill throughout their historic season.

I would like to personally commend the team members and coaches for a job well done. They are: Kresse Peters, Lauren Brannan, Justine Tucker, Alicia DeShasier, Tracy Stumpf, Katie Nolan, Dana Carter, Terra Stumpf, Amber Shelton, Molly Reed, Lisa Grummel, Jena Staples, Nicole Meyer, and Hannah Cunningham. Their coaches are Head Coach Lori Blade and Assistant Coach Donna Farley. I am very proud of you all.

**HONORING THE LATE GERALD
SOLOMON**

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, October 26, my good friend Gerry Solomon passed away after suffering congestive heart failure. What a great loss for this institution and for the constituents he once served.

Gerry was a Member of this Chamber for 10 terms serving from 1979–1999. Ask anyone who served with him, and they will remember him as an outspoken and tenacious advocate for his views and constituents.

I knew Gerry well and he was second to none in this Chamber. In losing Gerry, we lost a tremendous patriot and committed public servant. He was often referred to by his fellow colleagues as “the Pit Bull of the House.”

And, although he enjoyed his work in Washington and in the International arena, he always said his greatest enjoyment came from successfully helping people back home in his district cope with problems they had with the Federal bureaucracy.

He was very proud of the often repeated comments on the streets back in his district that “you may not always agree with Jerry Solomon, but you sure as hell know where he stands on the issues.” His commuting back home every weekend, catapulted him to reelection usually by overwhelming 3–1 margins during his ten terms in Congress.

During his Congressional career, which spanned 20 years serving in the House of Representatives, Jerry devoted most of his time to the issues of veterans, senior citizens, foreign policy, national defense, the war on drugs, and the budget.

May he always be remembered for the good father and husband that he was, and his relentless efforts to promote pride, patriotism and volunteerism. He proudly and unabashedly showcased his love for his family and his country everyday of his life.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 338, a resolution authorizing the printing of a collection of memorial tributes made in honor of the late Gerald Solomon, is a fitting tribute to our late colleague and friend. I rise in strong support of it.

**REMEMBERING TOM WHALEN,
FORMER MAYOR OF THE CITY
OF ALBANY**

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2002

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I am terribly stunned and saddened to learn of the loss of my friend, Tom Whalen. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, their children, and the entire Whalen family.

Tom served the people of the City of Albany as Mayor for eight years with the utmost devotion and expertise. He led the effort to bring the esteemed designation of “All-America City” to Albany in 1991. In 1986, he spearheaded the restoration of the carillon at City Hall as part of Albany's Tercentennial. That same year, he formed the Community Police Relations Board to help foster relations be-

tween the Albany Police Department and the community. He also played an instrumental role in the development of the Albany-Tula Alliance.

Tom was a highly respected member of the Capital Region community who had a sincere commitment to public service—a sense of hard work and a desire to help others, especially the disadvantaged.

Tom Whalen had a love for God, his family, his community and his beloved Ireland. His loss will be felt and endured by many, and the void in our community—and our hearts—will be difficult to fill.

**INTERNET FREEDOM AND
BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ACT
OF 2001**

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1542) to deregulate the Internet and high speed data services, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Tauzin-Dingell Broadband Deployment Act.

My State of Minnesota has been a pioneer in fostering competition in local telephone markets. In 1999, Minnesota implemented a ruling that required our local telephone companies to share not only its copper wires, but also upgraded lines with competitors. Following Minnesota's lead, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted this line-sharing rule, in effect making it law nation-wide for all the surviving Bell companies.

Tauzin-Dingell would eliminate this sensible approach that Minnesota initiated. By excluding competitors from the use of upgraded fiber lines, Tauzin-Dingell will create a new monopoly for the Bells. This would mean fewer choices and poorer service for consumers.

We must not gut the market-opening provisions of the 1996 Telecommunications Act before they have had a chance to take root! It is imperative that we maintain incentives for competition to ensure the best possible services for our constituents.

Free and equal access to information is vital to the strength of our democracy. However, H.R. 1542 is simply not the answer. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 1542.